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PATENT  
450108-3249.3

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Tetsujiro KONDO et al.  
Serial No. : 10/005,029  
Filed : December 3, 2001  
For : PICTURE ENCODING APPARATUS AND METHOD  
Art Unit : 2622

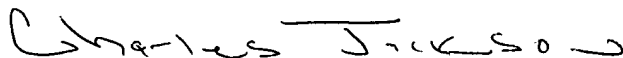
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**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Official Action, please amend the above-identified

Application as follows:

03/13/2002 SSITHIB1 00000004 10005029

01 FC:103

756.00 OP